IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

KUBOTA et al.

Conf.:

UNASSIGNED

Appl. No.:

NEW

Group:

UNASSIGNED

Filed:

February 5, 2002

Examiner: UNASSIGNED

For:

DETERGENT PARTICLES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

February 5, 2002

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

7. (Amended) The detergent particles according to claim 4 or 5, wherein the base particle comprises 20 to 90% by weight of the water-insoluble inorganic compound; 2 to 30% by weight of the water-soluble polymer; and 5 to 78% by weight of the water-soluble salt.